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Docket No.: BAFM0001-100  
PATENT

Appl. Number: 10/522,510  
Filed: 09/17/2005

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-26 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-26 have been subject to a restriction requirement wherein Applicants have been required to elect one invention from the following:

Group I, claims 1-15, drawn to a bacterial culture comprising mutant strain of *P. fluorescens* producing alginate;

Group II, claims 16-23, drawn to a method of production of mutant strain of *P. fluorescens* producing alginate of claim 1;

Group III, claims 24-25, drawn to use of bacterial culture comprising mutant strain of *P. fluorescens* for the production of alginate; and

Group IV, claim 26, drawn to use of alginate in the production of food, drug, etc.

Applicants elect Group I, claims 1-15.

The examination of Claims 1-15 and passage to allowance are respectfully requested. An early indication of allowability is therefore earnestly solicited. Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned attorney at 215.665.5592 to clarify any unresolved issues raised by this response.

As indicated on the transmittal accompanying this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any debit or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1275.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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